

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-11 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00

SWF-02 CIEP-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02 L-03 /100 R

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TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 182670

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, HK, SZ

SUBJECT: US/HK NEW BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REF: HONG KONG 9260

MINISTER JURICH FROM PHELAN

GENEVA FOR PHELAN AND TSB FILE

1. AS INDICATED IN REFTEL SUBJECT, US/HK BILATERAL IS IN FACT "NEW BILATERAL". IT IS ALSO FACT THAT NEW BILATERAL CAME INTO BEING IN RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENTS OF MFA ARTICLE 2, PARA 2(II).

2. TSB HAS TACITLY ACCEPTED THESIS THAT PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR NOTIFYING NEW BILATERAL RESTS WITH "RESTRAINING COUNTRY"; IN THIS CASE HONG KONG, SINCE IT IS APPLYING EXPORT RESTRAINTS. TSB, HOWEVER, HAS ALSO ACCEPTED THESIS THAT NOTIFICATION BY BOTH PARTIES TO A

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CEPTED THESIS THAT NOTIFICATION BY BOTH PARTIES TO A

BILATERAL IS ALSO ACCEPTABLE. THUS, WOULD BE INCLINED TO AGREE WITH MILLS' VIEW THAT BOTH PARTIES MAY NOTIFY IF THEY SO DESIRE.

3. TEND ALSO TO AGREE WITH YOU THAT THERE SHOULD BE SOME REFERENCE IN NOTIFICATION TO ART 2, PARA 2(II). IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH TSB COLLEAGUES IN JULY, THERE APPEARED BE CONSENSUS THAT SOME STANDARD NOTIFICATION LANGUAGE (FORMAT) MAKING APPROPRIATE REFERENCES TO APPLICABLE MFA PROVISIONS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED. BELIEVE THIS SUBJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED SEPTEMBER TSB MEETING.

4. SINCE UNDER PROVISIONS MFA ART. 4, PARA 4, WE NEED NOT NOTIFY THIS BILATERAL UNTIL OCTOBER 31, SUGGEST WE AWAIT OUTCOME TSB DISCUSSION (PARA 3 ABOVE) AND PHELAN'S FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH DORWARD RE TIMING OF NOTIFICATION AND LANGUAGE OF TRANSMITTAL (TO TSB) NOTE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, AGREEMENTS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE182670
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HMPHELAN:HM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740229-0910
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740832/aaaabbhs.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: HONG KONG 9260
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US/HK NEW BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT
TAGS: ETRD, HK, SZ, US
To: HONG KONG
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005